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Ex-Aide of JFK Urges Review of Assassination Report

NEW YORK — (UPI) — Richard N. Goodwin, a former assistant special counsel to President Kennedy, suggested yesterday that an independent group should determine whether the Warren Commission investigation of the President's assassination was inadequate and defective.

Goodwin made the suggestion in a review he wrote of the book "Inquest" by Edward Jay Epstein.

The book examines the Warren Commission's investigation of the death of President Kennedy, rather than the assassination itself. "It not only raises questions but demands exploration and answers," Goodwin wrote.

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"I find it hard to believe that the investigation was seriously flawed, but here is a book which presents such a case with a logic and subdued and reasonable tone which have already disturbed the convictions of many responsible men," Goodwin said.

The Epstein book, Goodwin emphasized, "does not show that anyone besides Lee Harvey Oswald was even remotely involved in the assassination. Therefore it does not prove that the basic conclusion of the commission was wrong.

"It does not demonstrate or even contend that the Warren Commission tried to conceal or mask important evidence. Nor is there any doubt that the purpose of the commission was to discover and disclose the vital facts.

"Rather than the assassination or the integrity of the commission," Goodwin wrote "the concern of this book is with the adequacy of the in- characterized as "extremely superficial . . . and limited in terms of both time and manpower, and consequently limited to the more prominent evidence."

Goodwin said that an independent investigation would, "perhaps unnecessarily, stimulate rumors and doubts and disturb the political scene.

"Yet there seems to be no other course if we want to be sure that we know as much as we can know about what happened on Nov. 22, 1963."

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